

Missourian SportsWeek

Iron woman
This triathlete challenges herself. See Pages 6B-7B.



Columbia Missourian

77th Year — No. 57

Good Morning! It's Monday, November 19, 1984

2 Sections — 20 Pages — 25 Cents



Anita Kelson

Giving thanks with a parade

Neither snow nor frosty temperatures seemed to chill the spirits of the more than 12,000 parade enthusiasts Sunday who attended the fifth annual Thanksgiving Parade. Clowns, Santa Clauses, 10 bands and carloads of Columbia merchants welcomed the holiday season. Above, Caroline Knight, 10, awaits the parade's beginning with other members of the Columbia Tigerettes, a group of student twirlers. The parade began near Stephens College and continued west on Broadway. Left, Andrea Sciortino and her son, Marc, rode in Cub Scout Pack 60's haywagon. "We almost didn't come because it was so cold," said Columbian Kay Russell, who had brought two children to the parade. "I'm glad that we made it though, it's been a very good parade."



Expert tells farmers relief is top priority

By Mark Tucker
Missourian staff writer

Relief of stressful financial conditions in agriculture will take priority over the writing of the 1985 farm bill this winter, according to Harold F. Breimyer, professor and extension economist emeritus.

Speaking at the 13th annual agricultural policy seminar, which ended this weekend, Breimyer said that President Reagan essentially gave financial relief priority over other farm issues in his unprecedented Sept. 18 announcement that extends Farmers Home Administration loans and guarantees private bank loans to distressed farmers.

He said the question of eligibility will play a major role in the program's implementation, but that the government would probably open eligibility requirements after the initial

cautious period.

The agricultural policy seminar this year was renamed in honor of Breimyer, who retired earlier this year.

Breimyer predicted that price supports would be relatively low in 1985, and that direct deficiency payments from the federal Treasury would be used to supplement farm income.

He said that price supports helped farmers deal with the price-cost squeeze, but that farm programs cannot compensate for current high interest rates.

Breimyer said that a balanced federal budget was not the real issue in future agricultural policy, but that the current tax code was one of the immediate problems facing farmers. He said that if the interest rates stay at current levels, the assets in agriculture will eventually be owned only by those who could take advantage of the existing tax code.

Former legislator Joe D. Holt, who opened discussions Friday morning, said that the lack of a long-range agricultural policy was one of the weakest links in Missouri agriculture.

He said one option not yet exercised by farmers — the formation of an agricultural union — would help to offset political power that is being lost through the dwindling farm population.

Holt, an attorney, said the state also lacked a comprehensive long-range plan for general state affairs, which resulted in the government "bouncing from one crisis to another."

John E. Ballard, local government specialist at the University, warned against over-reliance on "new technology" to solve the problems of dwindling resources in agriculture.

Ballard said one of the most finite of those resources — land — will continue to be depleted as long as absolute property rights include the right to make a profit from land. This allows developmental interests, not agriculture, to control farmland interests.

Missouri's horse races

Competition begins for possible sites

By Michael Coit
Missourian staff writer

Speculation about locations for horse racing tracks in the state has created a stir among public officials and private investors throughout Missouri since passage of Amendment 7.

The amendment legalizes pari-mutuel wagering on horse races in Missouri.

More than 100 Pettis County residents, including civic leaders and horse breeders, attended a public meeting Nov. 12 in hopes of bringing the ponies to Sedalia, the home of the Missouri State Fair. Also Howard Koplar, who owns the Lodge of the Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Mo., publicized his intentions Nov. 15 to build a racing facility on 3,500 acres of Shawnee Bend peninsula near

Truman Dam.

Despite the flurry of interest in horse racing, Columbia and Boone County officials say there has been no interest in a local track.

"The main reason we (Sedalia and Pettis County officials) set up a committee to study racing was to get ahead of other communities," Sedalia Mayor Larry Foster said. "We have a lot of advantages over other areas and we have got to protect Sedalia's economy."

Sedalia and Pettis County officials plan to set up a seven-member group to determine the cost of changing an auto racing oval on the fairgrounds to a horse track.

The efforts in this western Missouri region represent the most organized push in local government circles for a racing facility in Missouri. Koplar's plan, on the other hand,

represents the first serious proposal from Missouri's private sector. Some of his employees are studying tracks in Lexington, Ky., Omaha, Neb., and Hot Springs, Ark. The five-member team will synthesize features from those tracks to create a master plan for the track, he said.

The site for the \$50 to \$60 million track is ideal, Koplar said.

"If someone would draw a circle around the lake area and determine how many people travel through here, even those who don't stop, it would be four million annually," Koplar said. "It's a successful resort area and the property values have been rising for the past 20 years."

The pari-mutuel amendment directs the governor to appoint a five-member Missouri Horse Racing

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Americans see Reagan raising taxes

By Adam Clymer
New York Times

Balanced budgetPage 8A

With more Americans expressing confidence about government than in a decade, the public expects President Reagan to avoid an economic recession in his second term and to make a real effort to negotiate arms control treaties, a New York Times-CBS News Poll shows.

But at the same time the public expects him to break his most insistent campaign promise and ask Congress to vote an increase in taxes. Fifty-seven percent of the public and 40 percent of his own voters expect him to ask for higher taxes.

The poll detailed the depth and solidity of the national swing toward the Republican Party, showing Americans now about equally divided between those who identify with them or with the Democrats.

This development prompted a leading Republican poll taker, Robert M. Teeter, to say, "We are in the midst of a major political realignment in this country." But how that shift played out, he said, would depend on how well Republicans handled themselves after Reagan left the White House, especially how they handle their own potential cleavages over social issues.

The poll showed that the breadth of support Reagan enjoys was not limited to voters, who gave him 59 percent of their votes on Nov. 6.

Among non-voters his support was even higher, as 66 percent of them said they would have voted for him and 25 percent said they preferred Walter F. Mondale, the Democratic candidate.

To measure attitudes toward his second term, the political parties and the campaign after Reagan's landslide, The Times and CBS News reinterviewed 1,798 of 1,994 voting-age Americans who were polled Oct. 31 to Nov. 2. The new interviews were conducted Nov. 8 to 14, and the results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

Forty percent of the public said they thought government was run for the benefit of all the people. Although more, 49 percent, said they thought it was run "by a few big interests looking out for themselves," the 40 percent figure was the highest measured since 1972, and just four years ago only 21 percent said government was run for the benefit of all.

A comparable finding came from another of the "trust" questions asked for more than three decades in the National Election Study conducted through the Center for Political Studies at the University of Mich-

igan. The question is, "How much do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right — just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?"

In this poll 45 percent said the government could be trusted all or most of the time. Four years ago, only 25 percent gave those answers, down from levels as high as 76 percent in 1964.

Among this year's voters who voted for Reagan four years ago, 56 percent said the government could be trusted all or most of the time. In a similar post-election poll four years ago, 43 percent of Reagan voters gave those answers.

Fifty-eight percent of the public, for example, answered yes when asked, "Do you think Ronald Reagan will be able to handle the economy so that there will be no recession during the next four years?" Three-fourths of his voters, one-fourth of Mondale's and three-fifths of the non-voters thought he would. Forty-four percent of those Reagan voters said the economy was the main reason they had voted for him.

He got even higher marks on the issue where Mondale had attacked him hardest during the campaign, arms control. Two-thirds of the public and nine-tenths of his own voters said yes when asked "Do you think Ronald Reagan will make a real effort to negotiate a good arms control agreement with the Soviet Union?" Even Mondale supporters were evenly divided on that question, with 40 percent saying he would and 42 percent saying he would not.

These findings generally paralleled what the public said they wanted to see from his administration. Asked to identify two accomplishments they hoped for, half the public named a strong economy or jobs and almost as many gave answers dealing with arms control and better relations with the Russians.

Answers given with some frequency were hopes that he would deal successfully with the deficit, by 17 percent, that he would hold taxes down, by 9 percent, that he would help the poor, by 10 percent, that he would safeguard Social Security, by 6 percent.

Another encouraging finding for Reagan in this poll was a softening of his image about the poor. Twenty-nine percent of the public, up from 16 percent in January, 1982, said they thought he cared a great deal about the needs and problems of the poor. While 24 percent of those with family incomes of less than \$12,500 took that view, only 6 percent of blacks did.